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AN APPEAL TO OUR READERS.

The following circular has already been seen by some of our friends, but on further consideration it is thought expedient to give it a wider publicity, in the hope that it may elicit a more general response :—

Office of "LIGHT,"
2, Duke-street, Adelphi,
London, W.C.
December, 1894.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,—We are accustomed at this season of the year to make an appeal to our friends on behalf of "LIGHT." We always do so with reluctance, and heartily wish that it were not necessary; but unfortunately it is—for without the generous assistance which has usually been so kindly given us we could not have continued our work. Last year the response did not so fully realise our anticipations as we could have wished, the amount contributed having been very far from sufficient to meet the difference between our trade receipts and the cost of production. That the contributions were unusually small did not, we are glad to believe, result from any decreased appreciation of our labours, but from other causes which, we hope, have to some extent ceased to operate.

"LIGHT" grows in circulation steadily, if slowly, and we are assured on all hands that it grows greatly in influence. We endeavour to meet the requirements of the intelligent, educated, and cultured classes, whether of convinced Spiritualists or of Inquirers; and as these classes are neither so numerous, nor such ardent propagandists, as might be desired, we must bide our time and patiently pursue our accustomed way in confident anticipation of the day when our journal shall be self-supporting instead of entailing a heavy yearly deficit. Some of our friends are kind enough to assure us that "LIGHT" has become a "necessity" to those who desire to see Spiritualism presented in its higher aspects. We are, of course, grateful for this recognition of our endeavours so to conduct the paper that it shall be a credit to our cause; but we shall be forgiven if we say that, welcome as is their commendation, it will be of little avail unless accompanied by substantial help. Some of them, we gladly acknowledge, contribute their full share, and more than their share, cheerfully; we respectfully invite *all* to give what they are able.

It may not be out of place if, instead of confining our appeal to the claims of "LIGHT" on the generosity of our friends, we avail ourselves of this opportunity to invite their attention to a further field of usefulness. We, the undersigned, are officially connected not only with "LIGHT," but also with the London Spiritualist Alliance; and in the latter capacity are often made painfully conscious of the fact that Spiritualism does not take the commanding position which it ought to occupy, and which it might occupy, if amongst the many thousands of Spiritualists throughout the country there were the same *esprit de corps* as distinguishes the advocates of other and less important movements. The Alliance, hitherto, has made no special appeals for pecuniary assistance. Rather than do so it has been careful to keep its expenditure within the amount derived from its subscribing members. But its sphere of usefulness has thereby been sadly limited. With its reading-room, its valuable lending library, its frequent lectures and discussions, and its highly appreciated conversaziones, it has contrived to do a wonderful amount of very excellent work with the small means at its command. But it might do vastly more. There is a growing interest in Spiritualism amongst persons occupying a high position in Society, who, however—to a large extent because of our humble means and methods — cannot be tempted into a closer association. The Alliance needs, and it would be a grand thing if it could have, more commodious and more attractive premises, which should be the centre of various forms of activity—including a sufficiently capacious lecture-room; a depôt for the sale of all books, by whomsoever published, on Spiritualism and kindred topics; suitable rooms for séances, properly conducted under the direction of the Council of the Alliance; and cheerful apartments for the convenience of the many visitors from the provinces and from abroad, who would be glad of such a place in which they could meet friends, at any time, by appointment, for pleasant intercourse and interchange of thought on the special subject in which they are mutually interested.

To some who cannot realise, as we can, the hindrances and disadvantages of restricted means, and therefore of lost opportunities for good, our suggestions may bear the semblance of an Ideal, the attainment of which can only be hoped for or expected in the distant future. But, in truth, the need is very *real*, and no time should be needlessly lost in the accomplishment of what must be the ambition of us all.

In the meantime the Alliance has a special work in hand at the present moment, towards the cost of which assistance is respectfully solicited, in the hope that no separate appeal may be needed. In conjunction with the provincial friends it is now actively engaged in the promotion of a General Conference of Spiritualists of the United Kingdom, to be held in London in May next, for the discussion of important questions affecting the best interests of our cause, the particulars of which will be published in "LIGHT" as soon as the arrangements are complete.

Relying on your kind support,

Yours faithfully,

E. DAWSON ROGERS,
Editor of "LIGHT" and President of the London Spiritualist Alliance.

HENRY WITHALL,
Treasurer of "LIGHT" and of the London Spiritualist Alliance.

*** In forwarding any contribution which you may be kind enough to make you will greatly oblige by stating whether it is intended for "LIGHT" or for the London Spiritualist Alliance, or to be apportioned between the two. Remittances should be sent to Mr. Henry Withall, Gravel-lane, Southwark, London, S.E.; and cheques should be crossed London Joint Stock Bank.

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AN APPEAL TO OUR READERS.

The following circular has already been seen by some of our friends, but on further consideration it is thought expedient to give it a wider publicity, in the hope that it may elicit a more general response :—

Office of "LIGHT,"
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December, 1894.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,—We are accustomed at this season of the year to make an appeal to our friends on behalf of "LIGHT." We always do so with reluctance, and heartily wish that it were not necessary ; but unfortunately it is—for without the generous assistance which has usually been so kindly given us we could not have continued our work. Last year the response did not so fully realise our anticipations as we could have wished, the amount contributed having been very far from sufficient to meet the difference between our trade receipts and the cost of production. That the contributions were unusually small did not, we are glad to believe, result from any decreased appreciation of our labours, but from other causes which, we hope, have to some extent ceased to operate.

"LIGHT" grows in circulation steadily, if slowly, and we are assured on all hands that it grows greatly in influence. We endeavour to meet the requirements of the intelligent, educated, and cultured classes, whether of convinced Spiritualists or of Inquirers ; and as these classes are neither so numerous, nor such ardent propagandists, as might be desired, we must bide our time and patiently pursue our accustomed way in confident anticipation of the day when our journal shall be self-supporting instead of entailing a heavy yearly deficit. Some of our friends are kind enough to assure us that "LIGHT" has become a "necessity" to those who desire to see Spiritualism presented in its higher aspects. We are, of course, grateful for this recognition of our endeavours so to conduct the paper that it shall be a credit to our cause ; but we shall be forgiven if we say that, welcome as is their commendation, it will be of little avail unless accompanied by substantial help. Some of them, we gladly acknowledge, contribute their full share, and more than their share, cheerfully ; we respectfully invite *all* to give what they are able.

It may not be out of place if, instead of confining our appeal to the claims of "LIGHT" on the generosity of our friends, we avail ourselves of this opportunity to invite their attention to a further field of usefulness. We, the undersigned, are officially connected not only with "LIGHT," but also with the London Spiritualist Alliance ; and in the latter capacity are often made painfully conscious of the fact that Spiritualism does not take the commanding position which it ought to occupy, and which it might occupy, if amongst the many thousands of Spiritualists throughout the country there were the same *esprit de corps* as distinguishes the advocates of other and less important movements. The Alliance, hitherto, has made no special appeals for pecuniary assistance. Rather than do so it has been careful to keep its expenditure within the amount derived from its subscribing members. But its sphere of usefulness has thereby been sadly limited. With its reading-room, its valuable lending library, its frequent lectures and discussions, and its highly appreciated conversaziones, it has contrived to do a wonderful amount of very excellent work with the small means at its command. But it might do vastly more. There is a growing interest in Spiritualism amongst persons occupying a high position in Society, who, however—to a large extent because of our humble means and methods — cannot be tempted into a closer association. The Alliance needs, and it would be a grand thing if it could have, more commodious and more attractive premises, which should be the centre of various forms of activity—including a sufficiently capacious lecture-room ; a depôt for the sale of all books, by whomsoever published, on Spiritualism and kindred topics ; suitable rooms for séances, properly conducted under the direction of the Council of the Alliance ; and cheerful apartments for the convenience of the many visitors from the provinces and from abroad, who would be glad of such a place in which they could meet friends, at any time, by appointment, for pleasant intercourse and interchange of thought on the special subject in which they are mutually interested.

To some who cannot realise, as we can, the hindrances and disadvantages of restricted means, and therefore of lost opportunities for good, our suggestions may bear the semblance of an Ideal, the attainment of which can only be hoped for or expected in the distant future. But, in truth, the need is very *real*, and no time should be needlessly lost in the accomplishment of what must be the ambition of us all.

In the meantime the Alliance has a special work in hand at the present moment, towards the cost of which assistance is respectfully solicited, in the hope that no separate appeal may be needed. In conjunction with the provincial friends it is now actively engaged in the promotion of a General Conference of Spiritualists of the United Kingdom, to be held in London in May next, for the discussion of important questions affecting the best interests of our cause, the particulars of which will be published in "LIGHT" as soon as the arrangements are complete.

Relying on your kind support,

Yours faithfully,

E. DAWSON ROGERS,
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London Spiritualist Alliance.

HENRY WITHALL,
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*** In forwarding any contribution which you may be kind enough to make you will greatly oblige by stating whether it is intended for "LIGHT" or for the London Spiritualist Alliance, or to be apportioned between the two. Remittances should be sent to Mr. Henry Withall, Gravel-lane, Southwark, London, S.E. ; and cheques should be crossed London Joint Stock Bank.

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At 3 o'clock. The Duty of Introduced by Mr. A. Kitso of the Lyceum Union.

At 4.15. Organisation for Com duced by Mr. S. S. Chiswel National Spiritualists' Fede

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SOCIE

[*Correspondents who send us notice... they are associated will oblige b... appending their signatures to th... requirements often compels us ... received later than the first pos...*

BRIGHTON.—A lecture wil... Britten, at the Lecture Hall, ... at 8 p.m. Subject, 'What an...

LONDON OCCULT SOCIETY.—... 30th, it was resolved to diss... were not present will kindly ... F. TINDALL, A.T.C.L., Presid...

WELCOME HALL, 218, J... Sunday last we had a most en... who gave an interesting addr... followed by clairvoyant de... Marsh.—W.M.

3, ANDERSON-STREET, Ki... Sloane-square).—Sunday, at 3 ... at 8 p.m., clairvoyance; T... circle, Mrs. Perry; Saturday ... friends welcome.—WILLIAM G...

23, DEVONSHIRE-ROAD, Fo... were favoured with an excel... Reynolds, upon the 'Sublime ... useful points were touched u... justice of God. On Sunday ... deliver an address.—J. B.

SURREY MASONIC HALL, ... Sunday last Mr. Challis gave ... after which Mr. J. J. Vango ... which thirteen were recognis... factory, many of the tests b... next, at 6.30 p.m., Mr. C. M...

PUBLIC SEANCE AT BRI... Western-road, Brighton, writ... furnished to us by a correspon... on the 22nd ult., was a suc... séance it was an utter failur... the correctness of the descr... case there were circumstances ... of satisfactory evidence. We ... correspondent who supplied us ... subject.

STRATFORD SOCIETY OF SPI... of our local friends gave an in... which was well received. M... which was highly appreciate... Friday next, and we are anxio... should give him a hearty rece... our platform on Sunday next ... place on Sunday, 26th inst., a... bers who have anyone to propo... kindly hand in the name, with... before Sunday, 19th inst., to ... be taken by ballot, and it is e... will endeavour to be present.—...

CAVENDISH ROOMS, 51, Mo... Talk about Spiritualism' was ... delivered by the veteran Spi... half-hearted advocacy, but p... theories, but a bold narratic... teachings adduced therefrom. ... ciated rendering of "Entreat... The choir at Cavendish Roo... the musical arrangements, ... Ladies, and particularly gentl... their names to Mr. A. J. ... W.C. Cavendish Rooms will ... all to attend at St. Andrew's ... week, May 19th, Mrs. Emma ...

CARDIFF.—On Sunday l... admirable address upon the ... Vision,' tracing the religious ... from the inception of the ... century, when religious big... prevailed, and Christendom ... dry bones.' Coming to late... indicated the various causes ... of the dry bones' and the b... life once more, according to M... of infusing into them the t... revivification. The address ... religious history, and showed ... mencing the 12th inst., our ... John's Hall. Speaker next S...

111, CLARENDON-ROAD, ... evening last Miss MacCreadi... psychometrist, occupied the

SOCIETY WORK.

[Correspondents who send us notices of the work of the Societies with which they are associated will oblige by writing as distinctly as possible, and by appending their signatures to their communications. Inattention to these requirements often compels us to reject their contributions. No notice received later than the first post on Tuesday is sure of admission.]

BRIGHTON.—A lecture will be given by MRS. E. Hardinge Britten, at the Lecture Hall, New-road, Brighton, on May 16th, at 8 p.m. Subject, 'What and Where is the Spirit World?'

LONDON OCCULT SOCIETY.—At our general meeting, on April 30th, it was resolved to dissolve this society. Members who were not present will kindly take this notice as sufficient.—A. F. TINDALL, A.T.C.L., President.

WELCOME HALL, 218, JUBILEE-STREET, MILE END.—On Sunday last we had a most enjoyable evening with Mr. Wymde, who gave an interesting address upon historical Spiritualism, followed by clairvoyant descriptions. Next Sunday, Miss Marsh.—W.M.

3, ANDERSON-STREET, KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W. (near Sloane-square).—Sunday, at 3.30 p.m., public séance; Tuesday, at 8 p.m., clairvoyance; Thursday, at 8 p.m., developing circle, Mrs. Perry; Saturday, at 8 p.m., psychometry. All friends welcome.—WILLIAM GEO. COOTE.

23, DEVONSHIRE-ROAD, FOREST HILL.—On Sunday last we were favoured with an excellent discourse by our friend Dr. Reynolds, upon the 'Sublime Beauties of Spiritualism.' Many useful points were touched upon, relative to the goodness and justice of God. On Sunday next, at 7 o'clock, Mr. Challis will deliver an address.—J. B.

SURREY MASONIC HALL, CAMBERWELL NEW-ROAD.—On Sunday last Mr. Challis gave a short address on clairvoyance, after which Mr. J. J. Vango gave seventeen descriptions, of which thirteen were recognised. The results were most satisfactory, many of the tests being given to strangers. Sunday next, at 6.30 p.m., Mr. C. M. Payne.—CHAS. M. PAYNE.

PUBLIC SEANCE AT BRIGHTON.—Mr. Douglas Cameron, Western-road, Brighton, writes to protest against the report furnished to us by a correspondent that the public séance, held on the 22nd ult., was a success. He states that as a public séance it was an utter failure, and that only in one case was the correctness of the description admitted; and about that case there were circumstances which took it out of the category of satisfactory evidence. We shall be glad to hear what the correspondent who supplied us with the report has to say on the subject.

STRATFORD SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS.—On Sunday last one of our local friends gave an interesting discourse on 'Religion,' which was well received. Mr. Gozzett rendered a violin solo, which was highly appreciated. Mr. Vango will be with us on Friday next, and we are anxious that all friends and inquirers should give him a hearty reception. Several speakers will occupy our platform on Sunday next. Our annual meeting will take place on Sunday, 26th inst., after the services, at 8 p.m. Members who have anyone to propose for any office in this society will kindly hand in the name, with the proposer and seconder, on or before Sunday, 19th inst., to the secretary. The election will be taken by ballot, and it is earnestly hoped that all members will endeavour to be present.—THOS. MACCALLUM, Hon. Sec.

CAVENDISH ROOMS, 51, MORTIMER-STREET, W.—'Some Plain Talk about Spiritualism' was the title of an excellent address delivered by the veteran Spiritualist, Mr. John Lamont; no half-hearted advocacy, but plain, manly statements; no vague theories, but a bold narration of personally verified facts and teachings adduced therefrom. Mrs. Sutton gave a much appreciated rendering of "Entreat me not to leave thee" ('Ruth'). The choir at Cavendish Rooms are working hard in improving the musical arrangements, but much more help is wanted. Ladies, and particularly gentlemen, willing to join us may send their names to Mr. A. J. Sutton, 12, Upper Woburn-place, W.C. Cavendish Rooms will be closed next Sunday to enable all to attend at St. Andrew's Hall, Newman-street. On Sunday week, May 19th, Mrs. Emma Hardinge Britten, at 7 p.m.—L.H.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday last Mr. S. Longville gave an admirable address upon the allegorical topic of 'Ezekiel's Vision,' tracing the religious history of the Western hemisphere from the inception of the Christian era down to the tenth century, when religious bigotry, persecution, and darkness prevailed, and Christendom had become in truth a 'valley of dry bones.' Coming to later times, century by century he indicated the various causes which contributed to the 'shaking of the dry bones' and the bringing them into the *semblance* of life once more, according to Modern Spiritualism the distinction of infusing into them the *breath* of life and completing their revivification. The address was full of interesting facts of religious history, and showed much thoughtful research. Commencing the 12th inst., our meetings will be held in the St. John's Hall. Speaker next Sunday, Mr. E. Adams.—E. A.

111, CLARENDON-ROAD, NOTTING HILL, W.—On Sunday evening last Miss MacCreadie, the well-known clairvoyant and psychometrist, occupied the platform, and after an earnest address, full of spiritual admonition, gave a number of clairvoyant descriptions. Miss MacCreadie also sang a solo, accompanied on the harmonium by Miss Alice McNab. A sympathetic and genial atmosphere prevailed, and the character of the descriptions was doubtless favourably affected by this circumstance. Out of nineteen delineations sixteen were fully recognised. The details given in some of these cases were so definite and minute as to excite considerable surprise and gratification when their accuracy was ascertained. Miss MacCreadie's mediumship is of that sensitive quality which is exercised to better advantage in an assembly where (as in the present instance) the affectional elements are most predominant, than in one where the prevailing attitude is cold and critical. The conductor is desirous that it should be known that the collection on this occasion was larger than has ever been the case in the present hall, an evidence of support for which he desires to express his gratitude. Next Sunday evening Mr. J. J. Vango will occupy the platform.—G.

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PROGRAMME OF ARRANGEMENTS.

RELIGIOUS SERVICE.

A Religious Service will be held on Sunday Evening, May 12th, in St. Andrew's Hall, Newman-street, Oxford-street, conducted by the Rev. J. Page Hopps.

Subject of the Discourse—

"Spiritualism, the Key that unlocks all Doors."

Service to commence at seven o'clock.

A collection will be made in aid of the expenses.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

Public Meetings, *for which no admission tickets will be needed*, will be held on the Afternoons and Evenings of Monday and Tuesday, May 13th and 14th, in the Portman Rooms (entrance in Dorset-street; near Baker-street Station).

Subjects for Consideration and Discussion.

Monday Afternoon—Chairman, Mr. E. Dawson Rogers, President of the London Spiritualist Alliance, and Editor of "Light."

At 3 o'clock. Public Exhibitions of Spiritual Phenomena. Introduced by Mr. James Robertson (Glasgow).

At 4.15. An Ideal Religious Service for Spiritualists and Inquirers. Introduced by Mr. E. W. Wallis (Manchester), Editor of "The Two Worlds."

Monday Evening—Chairman, the Rev. J. Page Hopps.

At 7 o'clock. A Popular Misconception of the Relation between Science and Spiritualism. Introduced by Mr. Thos. Shorter (London).

At 8.30. Are Spirit Photographs necessarily the Photographs of Spirits? Introduced by Mr. Traill Taylor (London).

Tuesday Afternoon — Chairman, Mr. W. T. Stead, Editor of "Borderland" and the "Review of Reviews."

At 3 o'clock. The Duty of Spiritualists to Young People. Introduced by Mr. A. Kitson (Hanging Heaton), Secretary of the Lyceum Union.

At 4.15. Organisation for Combined Action and Work. Introduced by Mr. S. S. Chiswell (Liverpool), President of the National Spiritualists' Federation.

Tuesday Evening—Chairman, Mr. John Lamont (Liverpool).

At 7 o'clock. Our Duty with regard to acting upon Information given, Advice offered, or Requests made, in Spirit Messages. Introduced by Mr. J. J. Morse (London), Editor of "The Lyceum Banner."

At 8.30. Answers to written questions from the audience on Spiritualism, Religion, and Reform. By Mrs. Hardinge Britten (Manchester).

CONVERSAZIONE.

A Conversazione will be held in the Portman Rooms (entrance in Baker-street; near Baker-street Station) on Wednesday Evening, May 15th.

Music, Refreshments, Social Intercourse, Objects of Interest to Spiritualists and Inquirers, and Short Addresses.

Doors open at seven o'clock.

Admission by tickets, to be obtained from the Secretary, Office of the London Spiritualist Alliance, 2, Duke-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.; or at the Monday and Tuesday Meetings. The tickets will be free, but those applicants will have the preference who are members of Spiritualist Societies, or who are contributors to the Conference Expenses Fund, or who are otherwise known as active promoters of the Cause.

CONFERENCE EXPENSES FUND.

Contributions to the fund for defraying the expenses of the Conference may be forwarded to the Treasurer, Mr. H. Withall, London Spiritualist Alliance, 2, Duke-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

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'Account of Strange Cures. 1666.'—Valentine Greatrak.

'Du Magnétisme Animal.'—De Puységur.
(And various other works on the same subject.)

'Manuel de l'Etudiant Magnétiseur.'—Du Potet.

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WINCHESTER HALL, HIGH-STREET, PECKHAM.—On Sunday last, and on Thursday, circles were held as usual. On the latter evening many tests were given. Circles as usual next week.—H. E. B., Hon. Sec.

NORTH LONDON, FINSBURY PARK, OPEN AIR WORK.—On Sunday last, Messrs. Brenchley, Brooks, and Jones addressed an interested audience. Sundays at 11.15 a.m., under the trees near the band stand.—T.B.

SURREY MASONIC HALL, CAMBERWELL NEW-ROAD.—Mr. Payne, Mr. Magenis, and Mrs. Perry occupied our platform on Sunday last. Next Sunday, at 6.30 p.m., 'The Spirit Circle.'—CHAS. M. PAYNE, Hon. Sec.

NORTH LONDON SPIRITUALISTS' SOCIETY.—No hall has yet been secured, but we hope by the end of the summer to announce a meeting place for Sunday services. In the meantime the friends are all quietly working and waiting.—T.B.

DAWN OF DAY SPIRITUAL SOCIETY (No. 1 BRANCH), 132, ST. JOHN'S-HILL, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.—On account of the unavoidable absence of the medium (Mrs. Charles Spring), the president, Mrs. Ashton Bingham, will give the séance on Thursday, July 4th, assisted by a friend.—A. B.

WELCOME HALL, 218, JUBILEE-STREET, MILE END.—On Sunday last Mr. Dale gave an interesting address, which was highly appreciated by a large audience. On Sunday next Mrs. Weedemeyer will give clairvoyant descriptions. Speakers are kindly requested to communicate.—E. FLINT, Secretary.

EPPING FOREST.—Nearly forty friends met on Sunday and had tea at High Beech, after which a service was held in the open air, led by Mr. Brooks, and addressed by Messrs. Rodger, Jones, Emms, and Savage. Mr. Jones, under control of the late editor of the 'Medium,' gave a stirring address, and spirit friends present were described by Messrs. Downing and Savage.—T.B.

111, CLARENDON-ROAD, NOTTING HILL, W.—At our service on Sunday last, Mr. Boddington gave us an explanatory address on 'Spiritual Organisation.' Mrs. Mason's controls followed with very successful clairvoyance, nearly all the descriptions being recognised. Sunday next, at 7 p.m., Mrs. Whitaker; Tuesday, at 8 p.m., séance, Mrs. Mason; Saturday, at 8 p.m., spirit circle; July 7th, Mr. Emms.—J. H. B., Hon. Sec.

STRATFORD SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS.—On Sunday last we had a grand discourse on 'Spiritualism,' given by Mr. Brenchley, which was highly appreciated. Mrs. Brenchley also showed her marvellous power of clairvoyance. She gave twelve delineations, all of which were recognised. Mrs. Besan took the chair. Our outing to Epping Forest will take place on the last Saturday in August. Further particulars will be announced.—T. R. MACCALLUM, Hon. Sec.

CAVENDISH ROOMS, 51, MORTIMER-STREET, W.—It is gratifying to have to again report a good attendance. The fourth of the present series of trance discourses through the mediumship of Mr. J. J. Morse, entitled 'Life on the Threshold,' was greatly appreciated. It is a source of great regret to many that arrangements could not he made to have these lectures reported *verbatim*. Next Sunday evening, June 30th, at 7 o'clock, the last of this series of addresses will be delivered, the subject being 'Through the Gates.' We ask for continued support, to enable these meetings to be carried on successfully.—L. H.

PECKHAM SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS.—Circumstances have transpired which have decided us to discontinue holding meetings at Chepstow Hall. We therefore notify members and friends that we have entirely given up possession, but the society itself remains intact. For the present circles will be held at the house of the president and vice-president, to keep members together and further strengthen the bond of good fellowship which has existed, and we hope at an early date to re-open at a hall better adapted for our services. We take this opportunity to thank the Editor and friends for their kindly support.—J. H. BUTCHER, President; J. T. AUDY, Vice-President.

23, DEVONSHIRE-ROAD, FOREST HILL.—Last Sunday, at our floral service, Mr. Long's opening remarks were based upon the question 'Where do we Build? On the Eternal Rock or the Shifting Sands of Time?' Mr. Munns followed with cheering words of consolation, obtained through communion with the spirit world. Then a control of Mrs. Bliss's spoke words of comfort to the parents of the child who has passed into the higher spheres, telling the mother that daily the child is brought to her by her sister, who is, in spirit, the guardian of the child. The control also touched upon the future mission of the child, as being a guide to his brothers and sisters still left upon this physical plane. Then our old friend Tim (a control of Mr. Long) spoke on much the same basis, only in his usual humorous fashion. Katie, Vigo, and Joey, controls of Mrs. Bliss, followed with words of cheer to the bereaved ones, which will be remembered for many long years to come by those who were fortunate enough to be present to hear them. On Sunday next, at 7 p.m., Mrs. Stanley will occupy the platform, when we hope to see a good attendance. On Friday, July 5th, at 8 p.m., Mrs. Bliss will give a private séance to a few friends; application to be made to the secretary as above.—J.B., Secretary.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday last, at St. John's Hall, there was a full house, Mr. George Spriggs, of Melbourne, having been announced to speak for us. By way of lesson Mr. E. Adams gave an account of notable phenomena witnessed by him through Mr. Spriggs's mediumship, and which was listened to with evident deep interest. For the address Mr. Spriggs spoke upon 'Spiritualism in Australia.' His fluent and lucid recital of the growth, present status, and prospects of Antipodean Spiritualism, although somewhat lengthy, was much appreciated and met with frequent irresistible applause. It was greatly gratifying to learn of the substantial progress made, and to receive through the lips of our old friend the hearty greetings of brother Spiritualists there; it is needless to say that we fully and cordially reciprocate. Mr. Spriggs's personal and active co-operation with the Cause in Australia enabled him to give expression to many valuable suggestions in relation to society and Lyceum management, which will doubtless be useful to us. A splendid tone pervaded the entire meeting, and great pleasure was evinced upon the announcement being made that Mr. Spriggs would possibly speak for us again next Sunday, in which case his address will be upon 'Mediums and their Work.' Our hearty thanks are due to friends who worked so hard to decorate the platform, and in other ways ministered to ensure a pleasant and successful meeting.—E. A.

BARROW SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM ANNIVERSARY.—The seventh anniversary in connection with the above Lyceum was held in the Lyceum Hall on the 16th inst., and was well attended, the children in their exercises and their neat attire showing off to great advantage. The morning service was set apart exclusively for the rendering of the physical part of the programme, which was carried through in an exceedingly clever manner, and reflected great credit upon all those who participated in it. The marching, club, and bar-bell exercise was under the able conductorship of Mr. John Johnstone, and it is needless to say he has his little army well under control. The marching was taken up by all the members of the Lyceum; the bar-bell exercise was given by the youngest members; and the clubs were handled by the young men. The 'Welcome' dialogue, which was given by seven of the girls, was excellent, and showed to perfection their splendid training. The Psychological Hall was occupied for the afternoon and evening service. The following children recited in the afternoon: The Misses Nellie and Fanny Sinkinson, Irene Hopson, and May Collins. The evening service was of a most impressive character, the hymns, recitations, and solos being everything that could really be desired. The recitation, entitled 'The Women of Mumbles Head,' by Miss Maggie Kent, and a recitation, 'The Life-boat,' by Miss Isabel Sinkinson, ensured for them the highest enconiums. Mr. Whiteman (the chairman) with Miss Nellie Sinkinson illustrated to the audience what is taught in the Lyceum. He asked her questions from the 105th 'Golden Chain' recitation, and she answered them from memory. Miss Agnes Tranter's solo, 'Be at rest,' was beautifully rendered, and Mr. George Sinkinson's execution of Tennyson's poem 'Crossing the Bar,' was accomplished in a masterly manner. To Mr. Harry Whiteman as chairman over the proceedings, and Mr. Joseph Walmsley as conductor of the choir, every praise is due for the manner in which they acted in their respective capacities. Miss Ellen Tranter presided at the organ with her accustomed ability.—HAMILTON SINKINSON, Rep. Secretary.

VOTE OF SYMPATHY WITH MRS. ANNIE MELLON, OF SYDNEY.

Moved by Mr. W. H. Robinson, seconded by Mr. H. A. Kersey, and unanimously agreed:—

'That friends assembled at the Conference of Durham and Northumberland Spiritualists, held at Sunderland on June 23rd, 1895, hereby desire to record their sincere sympathy with Mrs. Annie Mellon, of Sydney, in her recent painful experiences, which have not only injured her health but caused long physical suffering, resulting from the indiscreet and brutal act of "grabbing" during the materialising process. While deprecating such acts generally, we, on behalf of large numbers of earnest investigators in Northern England and Scotland, desire also to place on record our repeated historic testimony to the explicit manifestations of independent spirit action tested by application of the strictest scientific test known to inquirers.

JOHN LORD, Chairman.'

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'Psychological Review.' April, 1878, to December, 1882.

'Human Nature.' 1867—1877.
(Many interesting reviews and papers are contained in some volumes.)

'Buddhism in Christendom.'—Arthur Lillie.
(Traces the close connection between the high mysticism of the Buddhists and that of the early Christians and Essenes.)

'Modern Mystics and Modern Magic; containing a full Biography of Mr. Stainton Moses, together with sketches of Swedenborg, Eckartshausen, Madame Guyon, the Illuminati, the French Spiritists, &c.' By Arthur Lillie.
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'Madame Blavatsky and her "Theosophy."'—Arthur Lillie.
(Hostile.)

Works of Andrew Jackson Davis.
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Works of Thomas Lake Harris.
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'Rise and Progress of Modern Spiritualism in England.'—By James Robertson.
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The following works on Mesmerism, Animal Magnetism, &c., are worth reading:—

'The Zoist.' March, 1843, to January, 1856.
(A magazine with much information on Mesmerism, all of which is now fully accepted. Of historic interest.)

'Researches in Magnetism, Electricity, &c., &c.'—Baron Reichenbach.

'Practical Instructions in the Science and Art of Organic Magnetism.'—Mrs. C. Leigh Hunt Wallace.

'Notes and Studies in the Philosophy of Animal Magnetism.'—by Ashburner.

'Animal Magnetism.'—Dr. Wm. Gregory.

'Animal Magnetism.'—Dr. Lee.
(These are old books and said to be out of date. Sometimes it is instructive to read what the old ones knew.)

'Mesmerism, with Hints for Beginners.'—Captain James.

'Somnolism and Psychism.'—J. W. Haddock. 1849.

'Surgical Operations in the Mesmeric State' and 'Mesmerism in India.'—Elliotson, John, M.D., F.R.S.

'Mesmerism in India. The Introduction of Mesmerism with Sanction of Government into the Public Hospitals of India. Natural and Mesmeric Clairvoyance.'—Esdaile, James, M.D.

'Account of Strange Cures. 1666.'—Valentine Greatrak.

'Du Magnétisme Animal.'—De Puységur.
(And various other works on the same subject.)

'Manuel de l'Etudiant Magnétiseur.'—Du Potet.

'Le Magnétisime Animal Expliqué.'—Alphonse Teste, M.D.

The following are standard works on Hypnotism and Suggestion. They are named for the convenience of the student:—

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W. Baker Fahnestock, M.D.—'Statuvolism.'

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DAWN OF LIGHT CIRCLE (Mrs. Hubert, medium).—A circle will be held at 68, Wells-street, Oxford-street, W., on Mondays and Wednesdays, at 8 p.m. Other mediums have kindly offered their assistance from time to time. Private sittings can be arranged.

WINCHESTER HALL, HIGH-STREET, PECKHAM.—Public circles were held on Sunday and Thursday last. Many tests were given to strangers. On Monday last, Mr. Dale lectured on 'The Influence of Spirits upon our Lives here." Discussion followed. Questions answered satisfactorily.—H. E. B.

SPIRITUAL HALL, 111, CLARENDON-ROAD, NOTTING HILL, W.—On Sunday last Mr. Brenchley gave us an interesting account of his remarkable experiences in Christianity, Materialism, and Spiritualism. Sunday next, at 7 p.m., Mrs. Mason, clairvoyance; August 6th, at 8 p.m., séance, Mrs. Mason: inquirers welcome; 11th, Mr. Wyndoe; 18th, Mrs. Hubert.—J. H. B., Hon. Sec.

LONDON DISTRICT COUNCIL.—On Sunday last, Mr. C. Hardingham gave an excellent address on 'Man, the Final Judge.' Speakers for August:—Next Sunday, Messrs. Boddington and Jones; 11th, Mr. J. J. Vango; 18th, Miss MacCreadie; 25th, Mr. C. Hardingham. The next delegates' meeting will be held at Chepstow Hall, after the service, on the 25th inst., at 8.30 p.m. sharp.—H. BODDINGTON, Hon. Sec.

SURREY MASONIC HALL, CAMBERWELL NEW-ROAD.—On Sunday last Mr. Long's guides occupied the time at disposal. The philosophy of Materialism, and its inability to satisfy the reason of man in his endeavour to solve the enigma of life, was shown; whilst, in contra-distinction, the completeness of the Spiritualists' philosophy was demonstrated. Sunday next, the spirit circle, at 6.30 p.m.—CHAS. M. PAYNE, Hon. Sec.

STRATFORD SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS.—On Sunday last we had the pleasure of listening to our old friend Mr. Veitch, who gave a stirring address which was listened to throughout with great interest. On Sunday next several speakers will occupy our platform. Friends will please remember that our annual outing to Epping Forest will take place on Saturday, August 31st. Tickets there and back by brakes, including tea, 2s. 6d. each. Early application necessary.—T. R. MACCALLUM, Hon. Sec.

ST. JOHN'S HALL, CARDIFF.—On Sunday last we were favoured with a visit from Mrs. Ellen Green, of Heywood. The addresses—"Spiritual Freedom and Progression" in the morning, and "Spiritualism in Harmony with the Bible" in the evening—were excellent, being practical, helpful, and suggestive in character, fluent and earnest in delivery, and—together with the clairvoyant descriptions afterwards—were listened to with marked interest, the hall in the evening being crowded. Speaker next Sunday evening, Mr. J. R. Gandy. Members' half-yearly meeting after the service.—E. A.

CAVENDISH ROOMS, 51, MORTIMER-STREET, W.—Mr. J. J. Morse was the speaker on Sunday evening last, and under the influence of his controls replied to written questions from the audience. The intellectual resource and oratorical ability associated with the 'trance speaking' of this medium are too well known to need comment here. One of the questions submitted had reference to the subject of re-incarnation, and after giving a brief but emphatic expression of his views upon the question, the speaker, to the great satisfaction of the audience, promised to make it the theme of the address he is to deliver at this hall on Sunday evening next. A subject of such widespread interest to Spiritualists of all shades of opinion should hardly fail to attract a large audience, particularly when the treatment of the question is in the hands of such a master of dialectics as 'Tien Sien Tie.' The Marylebone Society of Spiritualists, which conducts these meetings, extends a hearty welcome to inquirers. —D. G.

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23, Keogh-road, Stratford.—Mrs. Stanley will occupy our platform on Sunday next. Last Sunday we had the great privilege of listening to Mr. J. J. Morse, who gave a fine inspirational address, the subject being chosen by the audience. The hall was crowded by an eager audience who listened throughout with great attention. We are desirous of building a large hall, to seat about 1,000 persons, and have established a fund for that purpose. We are anxious to receive contributions, which will be thankfully acknowledged. Our annual outing to Epping Forest will take place on Saturday, August 31st, by brakes. Tickets, 2s. 6d. each, including tea. Kindly apply for tickets early.—Thos. MacCallum.

London District Council.—The next delegate meeting will be held at Chepstow Hall, Peckham, after the Sunday service on August 25th, at 8.30 sharp. The principal subject for discussion will be, 'The Qualifications of Societies Affiliating.' The following delegate meeting in September will be held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, by the invitation of the Camberwell Society. Delegates are requested to take part in the services if possible, and so make an agreeable change from the usual routine. Secretaries will please note that subscriptions for August are now due. Intending associates are also reminded that their subscriptions carry the power of voting. The 'Missionary Effort' at Chepstow Hall is making satisfactory progress. In September we have secured the services of Mr. Kinnesley Lewis, the well-known composer, who will lecture on 'Socrates.' —H. Boddington, Hon. Sec., 30, Upper Tulse-hill, S.W.

Cavendish Rooms, 51, Mortimer-street, W.—Miss MacCreadie occupied the platform at these rooms on Sunday evening last, her clairvoyant delineations being more successful than any that she has hitherto given in public here. This is the more gratifying as the idea of devoting the greater part of the evening to clairvoyant descriptions was somewhat in the nature of an experiment. Mr. W. T. Cooper occupied the chair, and there was a crowded audience, which, although critical, preserved throughout an evident attitude of sympathy and respect. This also, in view of the somewhat vexed question as to the policy of public clairvoyance, was a matter for congratulation. The clairvoyant delineations given were not only more definite and conclusive than usual, but the accompaniment of names and messages did much to fix the public attention and excite curiosity and surprise amongst the strangers present. As usual, the musical arrangements were supervised by Mr. A. J. Sutton and Miss Butterworth, R.A.M. (who contributed a pianoforte solo), and the service was by general consent regarded as most satisfactory. The continued progress of the Marylebone Society may be noted as a gratifying circumstance.—L. H.

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'Spiritual Magazine.' 1860—1877.
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'Psychological Review.' April, 1878, to December, 1882.

'Human Nature.' 1867—1877.
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'The Zoist.' March, 1843, to January, 1856.
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'Researches in Magnetism, Electricity, &c., &c.'—Baron Reichenbach.

'Practical Instructions in the Science and Art of Organic Magnetism.'—Mrs. C. Leigh Hunt Wallace.

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'Account of Strange Cures. 1666.'—Valentine Greatrak.

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'Manuel de l'Etudiant Magnétiseur.'—Du Potet.

'Le Magnétisime Animal Expliqué.'—Alphonse Teste, M.D.

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THE DEAD MUSICIAN.

IT is recorded of ORPHEUS that after his death he received divine honours, and that near his tomb the nightingales built their nests, and sang with surpassing sweetness.

His harp is broken! Some declare him dead.
We only say—'A prince of song is fled!'
The song is *fled*. 'Tis the best word we know
In earth's vocabulary; words do but flow
Congested, to express sublimest thought.
There is no death to Song; her wings were wrought
In heaven, where Music hath her native sphere,
Returning thither after lingering here.
Heaven knows no broken melodies in death,
No blank annihilation of the breath
That stirred to song the fitting instrument
Which is not ours to keep, but only lent;
And when the singer can no more abide
The instrument is closed and laid aside,
Only to be retained for memory's shrine,
Where roses and white lilies intertwine,
To breathe of life, and show the fragrant sign.
Around that shrine assemble in a crowd
Song's lingering memories without a shroud—
Love's nightingales of many a tender strain
That wake the silence with a sweet refrain.
There Faith and Hope surround a vestal flame,—
The stainless virgins of enduring name
Who love to linger near us while we wait
In expectation of life's western gate,
Whose bright inscription hearts delight to read;
Leaving to unharmonious souls the creed,
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WELCOME HALL, 218, JUBILEE-STREET, MILE END.—On Sunday last our little hall was crowded to its utmost extent, and we had a very enthusiastic meeting. The clairvoyance by Miss Marsh was most successful; many descriptions were given, all being recognised; names were given in most instances. Several articles were given to Miss Marsh to psychometrise, and she was remarkably successful. On Sunday next, November 3rd, Mr. Dalley will give a trance address.—E. FLINT, Sec.

23, DEVONSHIRE-ROAD, FOREST HILL.—On Sunday last, Mr. W. H. Blackman, a member of the society, gave an interesting lecture, the subject being 'Is Life Worth Living?' this being the first time of his occupying a public platform. He followed his address with tests of psychometry, which were in many cases recognised. Mr. Blackman is also controller of our members' developing class. On Sunday next, Mr. Dales, at 7 p.m.; Sunday, November 10th, Mrs. A. V. Bliss, address and clairvoyance.—J. B., Sec.

SPIRITUAL HALL, 111, CLARENDON-ROAD, NOTTING HILL, W.—On Sunday last there was a good attendance, when Mr. W. Wallace's inspirers addressed us upon the 'Mysteries of Mediumship,' giving a very graphic account of their experiences in spirit-life, &c. Mr. J. H. Brooks kindly presided at the organ. On Sunday next, at 7 p.m., Mrs. Whitaker will give clairvoyance; Tuesday, at 8 p.m., Mrs. Mason; Saturday, at 7.30 p.m., Mr. Peters; November 7th, Mrs. Hubert. Inquirers welcome.—J. H. B., Hon. Sec.

PECKHAM SPIRITUAL MISSION, CHEPSTOW HALL.—On Tuesday evening, the 22nd ult., we held our usual circle, the president giving some remarkable clairvoyant tests. On Sunday last Mr. Bradley, of Walthamstow, took our platform and gave an address normally (his first attempt, it being customary for him to be entranced) on 'Religions: Past, Present, and Future.' We had a good audience. On Sunday next the secretary will give an address on 'Spiritualism and Mediums: What are they? Are they Needed?' On Tuesday next we shall hold our monthly social evening.—J. C. JONES, Hon. Sec.

STRATFORD SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS.—On Sunday next Mr. W. Roland-Brailey will occupy our platform. Mrs. Brenchley will be the medium for our next Friday's meeting. On Sunday last we had a delightful discourse from Mr. Veitch, who dealt with the Second Coming of Christ from a Spiritualist's point of view. We had, as usual, a large audience. Our building fund claims generous consideration. We want a hall that will seat 1,000 persons. Donations are earnestly requested, and will be thankfully acknowledged by Mr. J. Robertson, 13, Berwick-road, Forest Gate, E., or by the hon. secretary, 29, Keogh-road, Stratford, E. 'LIGHT' and 'The Two Worlds' can be had every Friday and Sunday at our hall.—THOS. MACCALLUM, Hon. Sec.

CARDIFF.—ST. JOHN'S HALL, ST. JOHN'S-SQUARE.—On Sunday last we had the privilege of listening to excellent addresses from the guides of our good brother, Mr. E. W. Wallis, of Manchester. In the morning the subject was, 'The Special Claims and Service of Spiritualism.' The claims of past beliefs have nothing in the nature of proof in them to satisfy the inquiring mind of man to-day, but the claims of Spiritualism are supported by the present day evidence of its various phenomena, and these special claims are:—That the doorway of communication between earth and spirit-life is always open; that human existence is not cut short at physical death, but that continuity of life is a proven fact; and that life in the spirit world is essentially real, with retention of consciousness, identity, and all other human characteristics. With the establishment of these fundamental claims, the service rendered by Spiritualism to humanity, in revealing the true nature and conditions of the next state, is invaluable. The various spheres of spirit-life in order of progression, from the lowest condition upwards, were then graphically and eloquently depicted. In the evening, 'Who are the Redeemed, and How?' was a comprehensive and telling address, the striking contrast of man's status, spiritual progress, and destiny according to the popular belief on the one hand and according to the revelations of Spiritualism on the other, being presented with singular force and lucidity. On Monday evening, 28th ult., séance replies to questions, followed by clairvoyant descriptions, by Mrs. Billingsley, who kindly gave her services.—E.A.

CAVENDISH ROOMS, 51, MORTIMER-STREET, W.—On Sunday last we were once again privileged to hear from the lips of Mr. J. J. Morse another of those inspired addresses which have so justly earned for this gifted medium and his controls the highest appreciation from all parts of the Spiritualistic world. Choosing for his title the phrase, 'What is man that Thou art mindful of him?' 'Tien,' with all his wonted ability, held the close attention of the audience throughout. The discourse proved to be a condensed treatise upon 'God, the Universe, and Man.' 'Spiritualism,' said Tien, 'is the rational Gospel of Human Progress; it gives a broader, better, and brighter knowledge of God; it teaches man to trust God, by having confidence in God, respect for himself, and a knowledge of the universe in which he lives.' 'The world is better than man thinks it is, because man is better than he thinks he is.' Again: 'The doctrines of priests, who looked at the world with jaundiced eyes, were but church fetters which held mankind in bondage, and stunted the growth of mind and soul, but one by one the links are snapping, the shackles falling, and, if slowly, how surely, freedom is growing.' But scant justice is done by merely quoting a few remarks from this instructive discourse—nothing but a verbatim report would convey to the reader the exceptional skill and power shown by the lecturer in handling the many matters arising out of the consideration of the cardinal point of this lecture, 'What is man that Thou art mindful of him?' Mr. Sherman's fine rendering of the solo, 'Be Thou with me' (Hiller) was greatly appreciated. During the evening Mr. Morse was the recipient of a remarkably beautiful bouquet of choice flowers, the handsome vase in which they were contained being a present to Mrs. Morse. 'From a friend' was all that Mr. Morse was told. Mr. Morse gracefully acknowledged on behalf of himself and wife this tribute of friendship and goodwill. Next Sunday evening Mr. J. J. Morse will deliver a trance address (the last prior to his departure for America), the subject being 'Homes in the Hereafter.' Doors open at 6.30, commence at 7 o'clock. Solos by Miss Jessie Dixon and Miss Florence Morse.—LEIGH HUNT.

THE SPIRITUALISTS' INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDING SOCIETY.—Information and assistance given to inquirers into Spiritualism. Literature on the subject and list of members will be sent on receipt of stamped envelope by any of the following International Committee:—Africa, Mr. B. Stead, care of Hazell, Ballan and Co., Kimberley; America, Mrs. M. R. Palmer, 3101, North Broad-street, Philadelphia; Australia, Mr. H. Junor Browne, "The Grand Hotel," Melbourne; Belgium, Mons. F. Paulsen, Spiritualistic Federation of Liége, Angleur-lez-Liége; Brazil, Sr. Don. A. C. Munhoz, Director de "A Luz," Curityba; Canada, Captain G. W. Walrond, 198, Locke street, Hamilton, Ontario; France, P. G. Leymarie, 1, Rue Chabanais, Paris; Germany, E. Schlochauer, 1, Monbijou-place, Berlin, N.; Holland, Den Herr Van Straaten, te Apeldoorn Middellaan, 682; India, Mr. T. Hatton, State Cotton Mills, Baroda; Italy, Signor M. Falcomer, President "Armonia Spiritista," Termano; Mexico, Dr. L. E. Calleja, Director de "Lux ex Tenebris," Puerto de Vera Cruz; New Zealand, Mr. J. H. Graham, Huntley, Waikato; Norway, Herr Torestenson, "Advocate," Christiania; Russia, Mons. Etienne Geispitz, Grande Belozerski, No. 7, Lod. 6, St. Petersburg; Spain, Sr. Don E. E. Garcia, Hita, 6, Bajo izqda, Madrid; Sweden, Herr M. Fidler, Gothenburg; Switzerland, M. L. Gardy, Geneva; England, J. Allen, Hon. Sec., 115, White Post-lane, Manor Park, Essex; or Mr. W. C. Robson, 166, Rye Hill, Newcastle-on-Tyne (French correspondent). The following meetings will be held at 115, White Post-lane, Manor Park, in connection with the above society, for experiments in the various phases of mediumship:—Sunday, at 11 a.m., Mr. J. Allen, advice to inquirers and members' developing class. Also the last Sunday in each month, at 7 p.m. Monday, reading-room open at 7 p.m. for the study of Spiritual literature; at 8.15 p.m., Mrs. E. Allen, experimental circle for inquirers and members. Thursday, at 8 p.m., Mrs. E. Allen, for members only, the development of mediumship. All meetings free.—J. A.

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'The Mystical World,' for November. (London: H. A. Copley Canning Town, E. Price 1½d.)

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'The New Age,' for September and October. (Edinburgh: Alex. Duguid, 25, Springwell-place, Dalry-road. Price 6d.)

'The Theosophist,' for October. (London agents: The Theosophical Publishing Society, 7, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C. Price 2s.)

'The World-Mystery.' Four Essays by G. R. S. MEAD, B.A., M.R.A.S. (London: The Theosophical Publishing Society, 7, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C. Price 3s. 6d.)

'Modern Astrology,' for November. 'A magazine devoted to spreading a knowledge of this interesting science in every household.' With which is incorporated 'The Astrologers' Magazine.' (London: 1 and 2, Bouverie-street, E.C. Price 6d.)

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[Correspondents who send us notices of the work of the Societies with which they are associated will oblige by writing as distinctly as possible, and by appending their signatures to their communications. Inattention to these requirements often compels us to reject their contributions. No notice received later than the first post on Tuesday is sure of admission.]

WELCOME HALL, 218, JUBILEE-STREET, MILE END.—On Sunday last Mr. Dalley delivered an inspirational address, which was highly appreciated by a large audience. This is Mr. Dalley's first appearance in a public hall as a trance speaker. On Sunday next Mr. Walker will give a trance address.—E. FLINT, Secretary.

BRIGHTON.—LECTURE HALL, NEW-ROAD.—On Tuesday, 29th ult., Tien, the control of Mr. J. J. Morse, delivered a trance address to a full audience on the 'Science of Human Immortality.' The lecturer, without a moment's hesitation, discoursed upon this interesting subject with great fluency for upwards of an hour and a-half, exhibiting a wonderful command of language, wealth of illustration, and power of description.—F. DENSTONE.

SPIRITUAL HALL, 111, CLARENDON-ROAD, NOTTING HILL, W.—On Sunday last, Mrs. Whitaker's controls addressed a largely-attended meeting upon 'Elijah, the Prophet.' At the close a number of questions were asked by the strangers present, and very satisfactorily answered. On Sunday next, at 7 p.m., Mrs. Hubert; Tuesday, at 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Mason; Saturday, at 7.30 p.m., Mr. Peters; November 17th, Mr. Robson.—J. H. B., Hon. Sec.

WELLINGTON HALL, ISLINGTON.—The meetings which have been conducted at this hall during the last eight years have been resumed for the winter season. We have been pleased to meet old friends, and hope many workers will gather round and enable us to take the large hall at least once a month. It will seat 400 or 500, and could be easily filled from such a busy spot. We hope that our friends will come forward and do their best for the good of all. Next Sunday evening, at 6.45.—A. W. T.

23, DEVONSHIRE-ROAD, FOREST HILL.—'Man's Will: Is it Free?' was the question dealt with on Sunday last by Mr. Dale. The lecturer, by comparison, showed how little freedom there is in man; how, in fact, on every hand he is hampered by his surroundings, and that no matter how much he may desire or will to do, whether for good or evil, he is compelled to acknowledge himself lacking what he thought he possessed, namely, free will. The speaker, at the close of his lecture, gave some psychometrical descriptions while in the trance state. On Sunday next, at seven, Mrs. Bliss will deliver an address, to be followed by clairvoyance.—J. B.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—SKINNER STREET CHAMBERS PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Mr. Wallis paid his first visit to Newport on the 29th and 30th ult. The subjects, 'The Evidences for Immortality' and 'Spiritualism: Its Message,' were put forward in a most able manner, the arguments being closely followed up, and conclusions clearly established. After each address Mr. Wallis's controls dealt with several questions from the audience, and we feel sure much good work was done, as many strangers have expressed their admiration of the style of addresses, asserting that such teachings must ennoble men's lives. On Sunday last we were pleased to have Mr. Allen, of Cardiff, with us again. His address on 'Miracles' was much appreciated.—S. A. MEACOCK.

STRATFORD SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS.—On Sunday next Mr. and Mrs. Brenchley will occupy our platform, and Mr. Savage will be the medium for Friday, at 8 p.m. On Sunday last Mr. W. Roland Braeley gave a fine discourse, which was highly appreciated by the large audience present; he also gave some excellent clairvoyant descriptions. Our members are kindly requested to remember the half-yearly meeting to be held on the first Sunday in December. After the services business of importance will be transacted. Our committee beg to tender their sincere thanks to Mrs. Lambert for providing such a grand tea for us and handing over the sum of £3 15s. 9½d. towards our building fund, after paying all expenses. The thanks of our committee are also due to Mr. Gozzett and his friends for their musical arrangements. 'LIGHT' and 'The Two Worlds' can be had at any of our meetings.—THOS. MACCALLUM, Hon. Sec.

SURREY MASONIC HALL, CAMBERWELL NEW-ROAD, S.E.—Mr. Long took for his subject on Sunday last, 'Where shall we Draw the Line? A Reply to Miss X.' He dealt with all her arguments in his usual incisive style, clearly demonstrating their inconsistency. In the course of his address pointed reference was made to a sermon by C. H. Spurgeon, in which he positively affirms that the hell of the Bible is *a real place*, in which is real fire, and that the soul 'prepared by God for that place for eternity' would be as asbestos, burning always, yet never consumed. The speaker could not believe that any sane person who thought could ever entertain the idea that such a hell was intended for himself: possibly it might be for his neighbour, but certainly not for him. This being Federation Day, a special appeal was made to the generosity of the congregation. A good collection was the result, and the amount—supplemented by a guinea from our funds—will be forwarded immediately to the National Federation. The subject next week is 'Anti-Spiritualistic Theories.'—W.P.

CAVENDISH ROOMS, 51, MORTIMER-STREET, W.—On Sunday evening last, Mr. J. J. Morse delivered a discourse entitled 'Homes in the Hereafter' to an audience which filled the hall to its utmost capacity. The proceedings commenced with a pianoforte solo by Miss Amy Butterworth, R.A.M., and during the evening songs were rendered by Miss Florence Morse ('The Promise of Life'), Miss Jessie Dixon ('Heaven and Earth'), and Mr. Sherman (solo from 'Tannhäuser'). After the lecture Mr. T. Everitt, who occupied the chair, addressed the audience, referring in feeling terms to Mr. Morse's impending departure from this country, and begging his acceptance of a vase containing a magnificent bouquet, presented by Mrs. Robinson. Miss Rowan Vincent then moved a resolution expressing the regrets occasioned by Mr. Morse's departure, and bidding him God-speed. The resolution was seconded by Mr. T. Edwards in a few hearty words, expressive of his appreciation of Mr. Morse's work and character. Mr. Morse replied in a brief but touching valedictory address, thanking all present for the many tokens of kindness and esteem which had been called forth by the announcement that he was about to leave them; and the proceedings concluded with the usual accompaniments of a farewell address, the friends crowding around the lecturer for a final handshake and farewell greeting. Next Sunday, Mr. T. Everitt will occupy the platform with an address on the phenomenon of 'Direct Writing,' followed by clairvoyant delineations by Miss MacCreadie.—G.

MR. J. J. MORSE.

At the quarterly meeting of the members of the Marylebone Association of Spiritualists, the following resolution was moved by Mr. T. Everitt, President, and seconded by Mr. T. W. Cooper, Vice-President, and carried unanimously:—

'That this meeting of members of the Marylebone Association of Spiritualists desire to express their deep regret at losing the valued services and genial companionship of Mr. J. J. Morse, whose engagements with our American brethren will compel his absence from England for at least twelve months. At the same time they wish to congratulate Mr. Morse upon receiving such a proof of the high appreciation in which his services to the cause are held, and to offer him their sincerest wishes for his continued good health and prosperity, assuring him of a hearty welcome upon his return to England.

'This meeting begs Mr. Morse to convey to transatlantic co-workers in the Spiritual movement the warmest expressions of goodwill and esteem from the members of this Association, who congratulate the Californian Spiritualists upon being successful in securing the services of one whose remarkable mediumship is of such great value in the promulgation of Spiritualism, and whose high qualities as a Spiritualist and a gentleman have so justly earned for him universal friendship and respect.'

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'Ourselves,' for October. A monthly magazine. (London: 108, Tredegar-road, Bow, E. Price 1d.)

'The Lyceum Banner,' for November. A Monthly Record of Lyceum Work. (London: J. J. Morse, 26, Osnaburgh-street, N.W. Price 1d.)

'The Coming Day,' for November. Edited by John Page Hopps. (London: Williams & Norgate, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C. Price 3d.)

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'The Windsor Magazine,' for November. With an interesting biographical study of Hall Caine. (London: Ward, Lock, & Bowden, Limited, Salisbury-square, E.C. Price 6d.)

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SOCIETY WORK.

WELCOME HALL, 218, JUBILEE-STREET, MILE END.—On Sunday last Mr. Bradley's guides gave an interesting address, which was appreciated by a large audience. On Sunday next Miss Marsh will give clairvoyance. Strangers are kindly requested to come early in order to obtain seats. On Thursday, November 28th, a public meeting for inquirers, which will be held from this date till further notice, at 8.30 p.m.—E. FLINT, Sec.

STRATFORD SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS.—On Sunday next Mr. Veitch will occupy our platform, and on Friday next Mrs. Challis, on behalf of the West Ham Hospital, will give a trance address, subject, 'The Power of the Spirit.' We hope all friends will endeavour to make this meeting a thorough success in all respects. On Sunday last, Mr. Boddington delivered an instructive address, which was much appreciated by the large audience. Our half-yearly meeting will take place on the first Sunday in December (the first day of the month), after the services, when we hope all the members will endeavour to be present. Business of importance.—THOS. MACCALLUM, Hon. Sec.

CARDIFF.—ST. JOHN'S HALL, ST. JOHN'S-SQUARE.—On Sunday last we were privileged to listen again to the inspirers of Mrs. M. H. Wallis, of Manchester. The addresses, viz., 'Spiritual Spiritualism' and 'Glimpses of the Great Beyond,' were both very able, practical, and spiritually helpful efforts, highly worthy of more extended notice. After the evening address Mrs. Wallis gave five amply detailed clairvoyant descriptions, all of which were fully recognised. On the 18th inst., at the society's rooms in Custom House-street, Mrs. Wallis gave replies to questions, followed by clairvoyant descriptions. Speaker next Sunday evening, Mr. E. Adams.—E. A.

ISLINGTON, WELLINGTON HALL.—On Sunday last we had a crowded meeting, some friends being unable to gain admission. A friend was kind enough to bring a dozen spirit photos, which were handed round to the audience; and another had brought the spirit photo of his wife, he himself being the sitter. A great deal of interest was manifested in these pictures by many of the friends, to whom such things were unfamiliar. After a hymn and prayer, Mr. Rodger read an article from 'LIGHT,' entitled, 'Spiritualism versus Spiritism.' Mrs. Jones, under the influence of James Burns, gave a long address, in which he expressed his great desire to work for the upliftment of Spiritualism. Mr. Jones spoke, and a few questions were answered.—A. W. T.

SOUTH LONDON SPIRITUALISTS' MISSION.—Owing to circumstances over which she had no control, Miss MacCreadie was unable to be with us, but she very considerately sent us an able substitute in the person of Mr. White—a stranger to most of the congregation—who, in a chatty, pleasant, and at times serious manner, dealt with the many subjects dear to the heart of every Spiritualist. There were about a hundred persons present. On Sunday evening, December 1st, we are to have a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Brenchley, whose clairvoyance has been so strikingly successful at Stratford and elsewhere; it is therefore hoped that a good audience will be present to give a hearty greeting to these earnest toilers in the Spiritualistic vineyard.—W.P.

23, DEVONSHIRE-ROAD, FOREST HILL, S.E.—On Sunday last Mr. R. Beal gave an excellent lecture. He referred to Christianity as propagated by the theologians of past and present times, pointing out the bloodshed and cruelty that had been necessary to compel men to subjugate their reason to a blind faith. Quotations were made from the literature of the Christian World, particularly the description of hell given by the late C. H. Spurgeon in the 'Published Sermons,' Series II., chap. 17, p. 275. Mr. Beal then dealt with Spiritualism, showing how much nearer the Nazarene's teaching the Spiritualist approaches than do the orthodox theologians. On Sunday next, at 7 p.m., Mrs. Whitaker, address and clairvoyance.—J. B.

PECKHAM SPIRITUAL MISSION, CHEPSTOW HALL.—On Tuesday last we held our usual circle, which was attended with excellent results, under the direction of Mr. Rice. We received on Wednesday notice of withdrawal from our society of Mr. W. H. Edwards, who has been president for the last two months. The society will, however, be carried on as before. Will friends kindly take notice, and give us their hearty support? On Sunday next Mr. and Mrs. Brenchley will occupy our platform. Subject of discourse, 'Objections to Spiritualism.' We are looking forward to their coming, as Mr. Brenchley's addresses and Mrs. Brenchley's clairvoyance are thoroughly appreciated at our hall. Tuesday, circle at 8 o'clock.—J. C. JONES, Hon. Sec.

CAVENDISH ROOMS, 51, MORTIMER-STREET, W.—On Sunday last Mr. W. E. Long (of Camberwell) delivered an address explanatory of, and relating to, 'Spiritual Gifts.' Although, of necessity, traversing the well-worn path as trodden by St. Paul when instructing the Church at Corinth as to spiritual gifts, Mr. Long never wearied the numerous audience assembled, but succeeded in deeply interesting all. With marked ability, characterised by that vividness of description and freshness of detail which are always apparent in his addresses, Mr. Long traced the growth of spiritual gifts, giving most valuable advice as to their cultivation, and showed the blessings accruing from a right use of, and reverential attention to, these gifts. Mr. Long is always sure of a hearty reception when visiting Cavendish Rooms, and last Sunday's audience again testified to their keen appreciation of his valuable services to Spiritualism. Next Sunday, at 7 p.m., Mrs. Wallis (from Manchester) will deliver an inspiration address, entitled, 'Is Man Free?' followed by clairvoyance.—L.H.

WE are requested to state that Mrs. Graddon has now removed to her new address, 5, Nottingham-terrace, Marylebone-road (see advt.) The usual meeting will be held on Tuesday next at 8 p.m.

RECEIVED.

'Lucifer.' (London: 7, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C. Price 1s. 6d.)

'The Theosophist.' (London: 7, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C. Price 2s.)

'The Metaphysical Magazine,' for December. (London agents: Gay & Bird, 22, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. 25 cents.)

'Essays by Lady Cook on Social Topics.' Third series. (The Universal Publishing Company, 110 and 111, Strand, W.C. Price 6d.)

'The Palmist and Chirological Review,' for November. Price 6d. 'The Senate,' for November. Price 6d. (London: The Roxburghe Press, 3, Victoria-street, S.W.)

'How to Thought-Read.' By JAMES COATES, Ph.D., F.A.S. A Manual of Instruction in the Strange and Mystic in Daily Life. (London: Hay, Nisbet & Co., Bouverie-street, E.C. Price 1s.)

'The British Phrenological Year Book,' for 1896. Illustrated. Contains a Phrenological Sketch of W. T. Stead; also Dr. A. R. Wallace's Testimony. (London: Nichols & Co., 23, Oxford-street, W. Price 1s.)

'The Review of Reviews,' for December, with Character Sketch of Herbert Spencer and his Philosophy, and the book of the month, 'The Sorrows of Satan' and of Marie Corelli. (London: 125, Fleet-street, E.C. Price 6d.)

CREEDS IN THE LIFE BEYOND.—There has of late been considerable discussion as to the possibility of the spirits not being reliable authorities in the matter of describing their conditions; that in fact you can get all sorts of statements from the spirit world. It would really be the most marvellous place in existence if this were not so. A world in which everybody agrees has only one more thing to accomplish, and that is its own death. Unanimity of sentiment and opinion, that is the most disastrous thing that can afflict a community, and in the condition we have referred to, you not only find all sorts and conditions of people, but of opinion and social relationship, and from this plane come the great bulk of communications you receive. For the Protestant is a Protestant still, the Dissenter is a Dissenter still, and the Nothingarian remains a Nothingarian; and each and all, by that singular fatuity of thought which possesses all of them, can find in their own experience an absolute confirmation of the truth of their own earthly opinions.—From a Trance Address through MR. J. J. MORSE.

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'May 4th, 1847. ROBERT HOUDIN.'

A fortnight later, Mons. de Mirville received another letter, in which the following, referring to another séance, occurs:—

'I have, therefore, returned from this séance as astonished as it is possible to be, and persuaded that it is *utterly impossible that chance or skill could ever produce effects so wonderful* (*tout à fait impossible que le hasard ou l'adresse puisse jamais produire des effets aussi merveilleux*).—I am, monsieur, &c.,

'May 16th, 1847. (Signed) ROBERT HOUDIN.'

TESTIMONY OF PROFESSOR JACOBS.

Professor Jacobs, writing to the Editor of 'Licht, mehr Licht,' April 10th, 1881, in reference to phenomena which occurred in Paris through the Brothers Davenport, said:—

'As a prestidigitator of repute, and a sincere Spiritualist, *I affirm that the medianimic facts demonstrated by the two brothers were absolutely true*, and belonged to the *Spiritualistic* order of things in every respect.

'Following the data of the learned chemist and natural philosopher, Mr. W. Crookes, of London, I am in a position to prove plainly, and by purely scientific methods, the existence of a "psychic force" in mesmerism, and also the individuality of the spirit in "spiritual manifestation." I authorise you, dear sir, to insert this letter in your next number, if agreeable to you,' &c., &c.

TESTIMONY OF SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

Samuel Bellachini, Court Conjurer at Berlin, made the following declaration in December, 1877:—

'I hereby declare it to be a rash action to give decisive judgment upon the objective medial performance of the American medium, Mr. Henry Slade, after only one sitting and the observations so made. After I had, at the wish of several highly-esteemed gentlemen of rank and position, and also for my own interest, tested the physical mediumship of Mr. Slade, in a series of sittings by full daylight, as well as in the evening in his bedroom, I must, for the sake of truth, hereby certify that the phenomenal occurrences with Mr. Slade have been thoroughly examined by me with the minutest observation and investigation of his surroundings, including the table, and that I have *not in the smallest degree* found anything to be produced by means of prestidigitative manifestations, or by mechanical apparatus; and that any explanation of the experiments which took place *under the circumstances and conditions then obtaining* by any reference to prestidigitation *is absolutely* impossible. It must rest with such men of science as Crookes and Wallace, in London; Perty, in Berne; Butlerof, in St. Petersburg, to search for the explanation of this phenomenal power, and to prove its reality. I declare, moreover, the published opinions of laymen as to the 'How' of this subject to be premature, and, according to *my* view and experience, false and one-sided. This, my declaration, is signed and executed before a notary and witnesses. '(Signed) SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

'Berlin, December 6th, 1877.'

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PHENOMI

Mediums, who are the instru
have, more than once, been co
deceive by sleight of hand, or by
but several of the most expert c
powerlessness to produce under
occurs without human intervention

TESTIMONY OF RO

The Marquis Endes de Mirv
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addressé à MM. les membres
Morales et Politiques, sur un
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Alexis, the clairvoyant. A circu
Mons. de Mirville's visit to Houd
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'Although very far from acc
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de la plus complète exactitude), a
them, the more impossible I find it
belong to my art and profession.

'May 4th, 1847.

A fortnight later, Mons. de
in which the following, referring

'I have, therefore, returned
as it is possible to be, and persu
*that chance or skill could ever p
fait impossible que le hasard ou l'
effets aussi merveilleux*).—I am,

'May 16th, 1847.

TESTIMONY OF P

Professor Jacobs, writing
Licht,' April 10th, 1881, in
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'As a prestidigitator of rep
*I affirm that the medianimic
brothers were absolutely true*, a
order of things in every respect

'Following the data of th
philosopher, Mr. W. Crookes.
to prove plainly, and by purely
of a "psychic force" in mesm
of the spirit in "spiritual mani
sir, to insert this letter in your
you,' &c., &c.

TESTIMONY OF SA

Samuel Bellachini, Court
following declaration in Decem

'I hereby declare it to b
judgment upon the objective m
medium, Mr. Henry Slade, aft
vations so made. After I ha
esteemed gentlemen of rank a
interest. tested the physical
series of sittings by full day
in his bedroom, I must, for
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and, according to *my* view
This, my declaration, is sig
and witnesses.

'Berlin, December 6th,

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WHAT CONJURERS SAY ABOUT PSYCHICAL PHENOMENA.

Mediums, who are the instruments of an external agency, have more than once, been confronted with conjurers who deceive by sleight of hand, or by cleverly devised apparatus; but several of the most expert conjurers have confessed their powerlessness to produce under the same conditions what occurs without human intervention in the presence of a medium.

TESTIMONY OF ROBERT HOUDIN.

The Marquis Endes de Mirville published during the lifetime of Houdin two letters from the latter, in his 'Mémoire adressé à MM. les membres de l'Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, sur un grand nombre de phénomènes merveilleux intéressant également la Religion, la Science, et les hommes du Monde,' in which the conjurer confesses his inability to explain the phenomena he witnessed in the presence of Alexis, the clairvoyant. A circumstantial account is given of Mons. de Mirville's visit to Houdin for the purpose of engaging him in this investigation, of the latter's confidence in his own ability to detect the trick, and of what took place at the séance, the conditions of which were entirely under Houdin's control. This account extends over twelve pages, and its accuracy is confirmed by Houdin in the first of the documents now translated:—

'Although very far from accepting the eulogies which M. is good enough to bestow upon me, and especially insisting that I am not at all committed to opinions, either in favour of magnetism or against it, I can, nevertheless, not refrain from declaring that the facts above reported are entirely correct (*sont de la plus complète exactitude*), *and that, the more I reflect upon them, the more impossible I find it to rank them among those which belong to my art and profession.*

'May 4th, 1847. ROBERT HOUDIN.'

A fortnight later, Mons. de Mirville received another letter, in which the following, referring to another séance, occurs:—

'I have, therefore, returned from this séance as astonished as it is possible to be, and persuaded that it is *utterly impossible that chance or skill could ever produce effects so wonderful* (*tout à fait impossible que le hasard ou l'adresse puisse jamais produire des effets aussi merveilleux*).—I am, monsieur, &c.,

'May 16th, 1847. (Signed) ROBERT HOUDIN.'

TESTIMONY OF PROFESSOR JACOBS.

Professor Jacobs, writing to the Editor of 'Licht, mehr Licht,' April 10th, 1881, in reference to phenomena which occurred in Paris through the Brothers Davenport, said:—

'As a prestidigitator of repute, and a sincere Spiritualist, *I affirm that the medianimic facts demonstrated by the two brothers were absolutely true*, and belonged to the *Spiritualistic* order of things in every respect.

'Following the data of the learned chemist and natural philosopher, Mr. W. Crookes, of London, I am in a position to prove plainly, and by purely scientific methods, the existence of a "psychic force" in mesmerism, and also the individuality of the spirit in "spiritual manifestation." I authorise you, dear sir, to insert this letter in your next number, if agreeable to you,' &c., &c.

TESTIMONY OF SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

Samuel Bellachini, Court Conjurer at Berlin, made the following declaration in December, 1877:—

'I hereby declare it to be a rash action to give decisive judgment upon the objective medial performance of the American medium, Mr. Henry Slade, after only one sitting and the observations so made. After I had, at the wish of several highly-esteemed gentlemen of rank and position, and also for my own interest, tested the physical mediumship of Mr. Slade, in a series of sittings by full daylight, as well as in the evening in his bedroom, I must, for the sake of truth, hereby certify that the phenomenal occurrences with Mr. Slade have been thoroughly examined by me with the minutest observation and investigation of his surroundings, including the table, and that I have *not in the smallest degree* found anything to be produced by means of prestidigitative manifestations, or by mechanical apparatus; and that any explanation of the experiments which took place *under the circumstances and conditions then obtaining* by any reference to prestidigitation *is absolutely* impossible. It must rest with such men of science as Crookes and Wallace, in London; Perty, in Berne; Butlerof, in St. Petersburg, to search for the explanation of this phenomenal power, and to prove its reality. I declare, moreover, the published opinions of laymen as to the 'How' of this subject to be premature, and, according to *my* view and experience, false and one-sided. This, my declaration, is signed and executed before a notary and witnesses. '(Signed) SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

'Berlin, December 6th, 1877.'

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TESTIMONY OF ROB

The Marquis Endes de Mirvil time of Houdin two letters from addressé à MM. les membres Morales et Politiques, sur un gr merveilleux intéressant également l hommes du Monde,' in which the c to explain the phenomena he wi Alexis, the clairvoyant. A circum Mons. de Mirville's visit to Houdin him in this investigation, of the la ability to detect the trick, and of w the conditions of which were enti This account extends over twelv confirmed by Houdin in the fir translated:—

'Although very far from accept good enough to bestow upon me, a am not at all committed to opi magnetism or against it, I can, n declaring that the facts above repor *de la plus complète exactitude*), *and them, the more impossible I find it to belong to my art and profession.*

'May 4th, 1847.

A fortnight later, Mons. de Mir in which the following, referring to

'I have, therefore, returned fro as it is possible to be, and persuade *that chance or skill could ever produ fait impossible que le hasard ou l'adr effets aussi merveilleux*).—I am, mon

'May 16th, 1847. (

TESTIMONY OF PROFE

Professor Jacobs, writing to t Licht,' April 10th, 1881, in refer occurred in Paris through the Broth

'As a prestidigitator of repute, *I affirm that the medianimic facts brothers were absolutely true*, and be order of things in every respect.

'Following the data of the lea philosopher, Mr. W. Crookes, of L to prove plainly, and by purely scient of a "psychic force" in mesmerism of the spirit in "spiritual manifestat sir, to insert this letter in your next you,' &c., &c.

TESTIMONY OF SAMUEL

Samuel Bellachini, Court Conju following declaration in December, 18

'I hereby declare it to be a r judgment upon the objective medial p medium, Mr. Henry Slade, after only vations so made. After I had, at t esteemed gentlemen of rank and po interest, tested the physical mediu series of sittings by full daylight, in his bedroom, I must, for the sak that the phenomenal occurrences w thoroughly examined by me with the investigation of his surroundings, in I have *not in the smallest degree* foun by means of prestidigitative manife apparatus; and that any explanation took place *under the circumstances a* by any reference to prestidigitation must rest with such men of science London; Perty, in Berne; Butler search for the explanation of this prove its reality. I declare, moreov of laymen as to the 'How' of thi and, according to *my* view and exper This, my declaration, is signed and and witnesses. '(Signe

'Berlin, December 6th, 1877.'

WHAT CONJURERS SAY ABOUT PSYCHICAL PHENOMENA.

Mediums, who are the instruments of an external agency, have more than once, been confronted with conjurers who profess to produce by sleight of hand, or by cleverly devised apparatus; and several of the most expert conjurers have confessed their inability or helplessness to produce under the same conditions what is claimed to occur without human intervention in the presence of a medium.

TESTIMONY OF ROBERT HOUDIN.

The Marquis Endes de Mirville published during the life-time of Houdin two letters from the latter, in his 'Mémoire adressé à MM. les membres de l'Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, sur un grand nombre de phénomènes merveilleux intéressant également la Religion, la Science, et les Lumières du Monde,' in which the conjurer confesses his inability to explain the phenomena he witnessed in the presence of Alexis, the clairvoyant. A circumstantial account is given of M. de Mirville's visit to Houdin for the purpose of engaging him in this investigation, of the latter's confidence in his own ability to detect the trick, and of what took place at the séance, the conditions of which were entirely under Houdin's control. This account extends over twelve pages, and its accuracy is confirmed by Houdin in the first of the documents now translated:—

'Although very far from accepting the eulogies which M. is pleased enough to bestow upon me, and especially insisting that I am not at all committed to opinions, either in favour of spiritualism or against it, I can, nevertheless, not refrain from declaring that the facts above reported are entirely correct (*sont à la plus complète exactitude*), *and that, the more I reflect upon them, the more impossible I find it to rank them among those which belong to my art and profession.*

'May 4th, 1847. ROBERT HOUDIN.'

A fortnight later, Mons. de Mirville received another letter, in which the following, referring to another séance, occurs:—

'I have, therefore, returned from this séance as astonished as it is possible to be, and persuaded that it is *utterly impossible that chance or skill could ever produce effects so wonderful* (*tout à fait impossible que le hasard ou l'adresse puisse jamais produire des effets aussi merveilleux*).—I am, monsieur, &c.,

'May 16th, 1847. (Signed) ROBERT HOUDIN.'

TESTIMONY OF PROFESSOR JACOBS.

Professor Jacobs, writing to the Editor of 'Licht, mehr Licht,' April 10th, 1881, in reference to phenomena which occurred in Paris through the Brothers Davenport, said:—

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TESTIMONY OF SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

Samuel Bellachini, Court Conjurer at Berlin, made the following declaration in December, 1877:—

'I hereby declare it to be a rash action to give decisive judgment upon the objective medial performance of the American medium, Mr. Henry Slade, after only one sitting and the observations so made. After I had, at the wish of several highly-esteemed gentlemen of rank and position, and also for my own interest tested the physical mediumship of Mr. Slade, in a series of sittings by full daylight, as well as in the evening in his bedroom, I must, for the sake of truth, hereby certify that the phenomenal occurrences with Mr. Slade have been thoroughly examined by me with the minutest observation and investigation of his surroundings, including the table, and that I have *not in the smallest degree* found anything to be produced by means of prestidigitative manifestations, or by mechanical apparatus; and that any explanation of the experiments which took place *under the circumstances and conditions then obtaining* by any reference to prestidigitation *is absolutely* impossible. It must rest with such men of science as Crookes and Wallace, in London; Perty, in Berne; Butlerof, in St. Petersburg, to research for the explanation of this phenomenal power, and to prove its reality. I declare, moreover, the published opinions of laymen as to the 'How' of this subject to be premature, and, according to *my* view and experience, false and one-sided. This, my declaration, is signed and executed before a notary and witnesses. '(Signed) SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

'Berlin, December 6th, 1877.'

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TESTIMONY OF ROBERT HOUDIN.

The Marquis Endes de Mirville published during the lifetime of Houdin two letters from the latter, in his 'Mémoire addressé à MM. les membres de l'Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, sur un grand nombre de phénomènes merveilleux intéressant également la Religion, la Science, et les hommes du Monde,' in which the conjurer confesses his inability to explain the phenomena he witnessed in the presence of Alexis, the clairvoyant. A circumstantial account is given of Mons. de Mirville's visit to Houdin for the purpose of engaging him in this investigation, of the latter's confidence in his own ability to detect the trick, and of what took place at the séance, the conditions of which were entirely under Houdin's control. This account extends over twelve pages, and its accuracy is confirmed by Houdin in the first of the documents now translated :—

'Although very far from accepting the eulogies which M. is good enough to bestow upon me, and especially insisting that I am not at all committed to opinions, either in favour of magnetism or against it, I can, nevertheless, not refrain from declaring that the facts above reported are entirely correct (*sont de la plus complète exactitude*), *and that, the more I reflect upon them, the more impossible I find it to rank them among those which belong to my art and profession.*

'May 4th, 1847. ROBERT HOUDIN.'

A fortnight later, Mons. de Mirville received another letter, in which the following, referring to another séance, occurs :—

'I have, therefore, returned from this séance as astonished as it is possible to be, and persuaded that it is *utterly impossible that chance or skill could ever produce effects so wonderful* (*tout à fait impossible que le hasard ou l'adresse puisse jamais produire des effets aussi merveilleux*).—I am, monsieur, &c.,

'May 16th, 1847. (Signed) ROBERT HOUDIN.'

TESTIMONY OF PROFESSOR JACOBS.

Professor Jacobs, writing to the Editor of 'Licht, mehr Licht,' April 10th, 1881, in reference to phenomena which occurred in Paris through the Brothers Davenport, said :—

'As a prestidigitator of repute, and a sincere Spiritualist, *I affirm that the medianimic facts demonstrated by the two brothers were absolutely true*, and belonged to the *Spiritualistic* order of things in every respect.

'Following the data of the learned chemist and natural philosopher, Mr. W. Crookes, of London, I am in a position to prove plainly, and by purely scientific methods, the existence of a "psychic force" in mesmerism, and also the individuality of the spirit in "spiritual manifestation." I authorise you, dear sir, to insert this letter in your next number, if agreeable to you,' &c., &c.

TESTIMONY OF SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

Samuel Bellachini, Court Conjurer at Berlin, made the following declaration in December, 1877 :—

'I hereby declare it to be a rash action to give decisive judgment upon the objective medial performance of the American medium, Mr. Henry Slade, after only one sitting and the observations so made. After I had, at the wish of several highly-esteemed gentlemen of rank and position, and also for my own interest, tested the physical mediumship of Mr. Slade, in a series of sittings by full daylight, as well as in the evening in his bedroom, I must, for the sake of truth, hereby certify that the phenomenal occurrences with Mr. Slade have been thoroughly examined by me with the minutest observation and investigation of his surroundings, including the table, and that I have *not in the smallest degree* found anything to be produced by means of prestidigitative manifestations, or by mechanical apparatus; and that any explanation of the experiments which took place *under the circumstances and conditions then obtaining* by any reference to prestidigitation *is absolutely* impossible. It must rest with such men of science as Crookes and Wallace, in London; Perty, in Berne; Butlerof, in St. Petersburg, to search for the explanation of this phenomenal power, and to prove its reality. I declare, moreover, the published opinions of laymen as to the 'How' of this subject to be premature, and, according to *my* view and experience, false and one-sided. This, my declaration, is signed and executed before a notary and witnesses. '(Signed) SAMUEL BELLACHINI.

'Berlin, December 6th, 1877.'

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